

Message Text

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12

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 COA-02 CG-00 CEQ-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 NSF-04 NSC-07

NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 SP-03 FEA-02 ACDA-19

AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01

H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /202 W

----- 037135

R 160220Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8061

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

DIA WASHDC

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 1518

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, NZ

SUBJ: LOS: GNZ POSITION AS SEEN BY NZ SECDEF

REFS: (A) STATE 097509

(B) STATE 097510

(C) STATE A1666, FEBRUARY 28, 1974

(D) WELLINGTON 1491(NOTAL)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN COMPLIANCE WITH REF A AND IN CONT-
INUATION REF D DCM ACCOMPANIED BY ALUSNA CALLED ON SECDEF
JOHN ROBERTSON TO DISCUSS REFTEL AND IF POSSIBLE
ELICIT NZ POSITIONS ON LOS ISSUES. EMPHASIS WAS ON
ARCHIPELAGO AND FREE TRANSIT THRU INTERNATIONAL
STRAITS. HOWEVER, MATTERS OF SEA BED RESOURCES
AND FISHERIES WERE ALSO BRIEFLY TOUCHED UPON. ROBERTSON
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APPEARED EXTREMELY WELL READ ON ALL LOS ISSUES AND WAS

GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC WITH US NEEDS TO INSURE FREE TRANSIT. HE STATED NZ HAD YET TO SETTLE ON FIRM POSITION ON ANY LOS ISSUE BUT WOULD SOON DO SO. ROBERTSON WAS RECEPTIVE AND GRATEFUL FOR HAVING BEEN GIVEN GISTINGS OF REFS. IMPRESSION WAS ONE OF COOPERATION AND AGREEMENT TO CONSULT WITH US ON LOS. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETING RAN NEARLY ONE HOUR WITH ROBERTSON DOING SEVENTY PERCENT OF TALKING. HE DID NOT TAKE TIME TO READ MATERIALS PROVIDED HIM NOR WAS HE PRESSED TO DO SO. RATHER HE CHOSE TO EXPLAIN HIS VIEWS ON OVERALL LOS THEN ZEROIED IN ON NZ DEFENCE POSITIONS WHICH HE WILL PUSH IN SUBSEUQNT TALKS WITH MFA AND FINALLY CABINET IN ATTEMPT SETTLE ON POLICY CONSENSUS FOR NZ DELEGATION TO CARACAS.

3. SECDEF INDICATED TWELVE MILE TERRITORIAL SEA SEEMED INEVITABLE AND HE HAD NO QUARREL THEREWITH. QUESTION OF INTERNATIONAL STRAITS CLOSED THEREBY IS, HOWEVER, MAJOR ISLUE CONFRONTING CONFERENCE. HE WAS INCLINED TO USE INTERCHANGEABLY TERMS INNOCENT PASSAGE AND FREE TRANSIT AND WAS REMINED OF CLEAR DISTINCTION.

4. ROBERTSON STATED NZ WOULD PROBABLY RPT PROBABLY VOTE FOR TWELVE MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND QUOTE SOME FORM OF TWO HUNDRED MILE RECOURSES CONTROL UNQUOTE. WHEN PRESSED ON RIGHT OF FREE TRANSIT THRU 200 MILE RESOURCES ZONE HE STATED, REGARDLESS OF EITHER 200 MILE OR ARCHIPELAGO CLAIMS, RIGHT TO NAVIGATION WITHOUT NOTICE OR RESTRAINT SHOULD STAND. DETERMINATION OF JUST WHAT CONSTITUTES INNOCENCE IN INNOCENT PASSAGE SHOULD PROPERLY BE SPELLED OUT IN CONVENTION AND NOT LEFT TO CAPRICE OF COASTAL STATES.

5. HE SAW PROBLEMS IN CERTAIN STRAITS WITH HIGH TRAFFIC DENSITY (SUCH AS MALACCA) IN HAVING BOTH FREE TRANSIT (I.E. NO NOTICE) AND TRAFFIC SAFETY RULES. WHEN PRESSED ON THIS KNOTTY ISSUE ALUSNA INDICATED THE MALACCA UNDOUBTEDLY CROWDED AND PERHAPS DESERVING MORE STUDY
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TO LEARN TRUE SAFETY NEEDS. HE INDICATED THE APPARENT CONTRADICTION OF NO NOTICE AND TRAFFIC CONTROL HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH BOTH INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA.

6. IT WAS MADE ABUNDANTLY CLEAR TO DCM AND ALUSNA THAT IN DEVELOPING NEW ZEALAND LOS POLICY, DEFENSE AND MFA SOMETIMES CLASH AND THAT DEFENSE UNDERSTANDS AND WISHES NOT TO UPSET US ABILITY TO COUNTER BALANCE SOVIETS. HE

STATED MFA, AND TO LESSER DEGREE MOD, REALIZED THEY SHOULD MINIMIZE RISK OFFENDING FRIENDS IN INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA. NO MENTION MADE OF PHILIPPINES OR AUSTRALIA.

7. INTEND CONTINUED PRESS BOTH DEFENSE AND MFA TO LEARN VIEWS OF EACH AS POLICY IS FOUGHT OUT AT SAME TIME OFFERING ALL ASSISTANCE AND COUNSEL AT OUR DISPOSAL.

8. ABOVE VIEWS FULLY SHARED BY ALUSNA WHO ASSISTED IN THEIR FORMULATION.
WOOD

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NNN

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